

GROUNDWATER STORAGE PROJECT APPLICATION INFORMATION

This application is for the creation of groundwater storage by means other than carryover conversion, specifically when *new* production, spreading, or injection facilities are being proposed within the West Coast Basin. For Water Augmentation Projects, please submit a “Groundwater Augmentation Project Application.”

All storage project applications shall describe the following:

- the nature and location of the new storage facility(s)
- the amount of water to be put into the Basin through the new facility
- any anticipated schedule for introducing the stored water into the Basin and its subsequent extractions
- the government approvals needed for the construction and operation of the facility
- status of any CEQA review documents that have been approved or will be prepared

Submitted applications will be reviewed, and acted upon in accordance with Sections V(12) and (13) of the West Coast Basin Judgment (Judgment) and the West Coast Basin Watermaster Rules.

Storage projects require review and approval by the West Coast Basin Storage Panel (Panel). The Panel will only approve an application providing that there is no material physical harm or imminent threat to the groundwater supplies of the West Coast Basin.

The Administrative Body will review applications before submittal to the Panel to ensure completeness. Applicants will be responsible for completing any edits or providing additional information if deemed necessary by the Administrative Body. Should additional technical studies or modeling be necessary, the Applicant may do the work themselves or request the work to be done by WRD at the Applicant’s expense.

A notice of the final project application, with copies of all supporting documents, including any modeling or studies, draft or final CEQA review documents, the Administrative Body’s staff report and recommendation for the project, will be sent to each member of the Panel and each party to the Judgment within 30 days of the application being deemed “final” by the Administrative Body. Furthermore, a Panel hearing will be scheduled within the 30 days. In regards to the CEQA process, copies of all notices required under CEQA must be provided to the Panel and each party to the Judgment simultaneously with the general public. All CEQA notices pertaining to a project will be posted on the Administrative Body’s website.

Applicants or their designated representatives are required to attend the hearing on the application as scheduled by the Panel. The Administrative Body will coordinate with Applicants to prepare any materials needed for the Panel hearing. The application review process is outlined on page 3. Per the Judgment, Section V (13)(B)(3), factors that will be considered by the Panel when reviewing a project, include:

- facilities in the vicinity of the project
- proximity to drinking water wells and depths at which such wells are screened
- depth at which water will be added under the proposed project
- resulting groundwater elevations from the project based on groundwater modeling and other technical studies conducted by the Administrative Body or the applicant, if they elect to do so
- existing contamination, if any, in the vicinity of the project

West Coast Basin
WATER RIGHTS PANEL



- preferential groundwater pathways
- the source of the water for the project
- information provided by any party

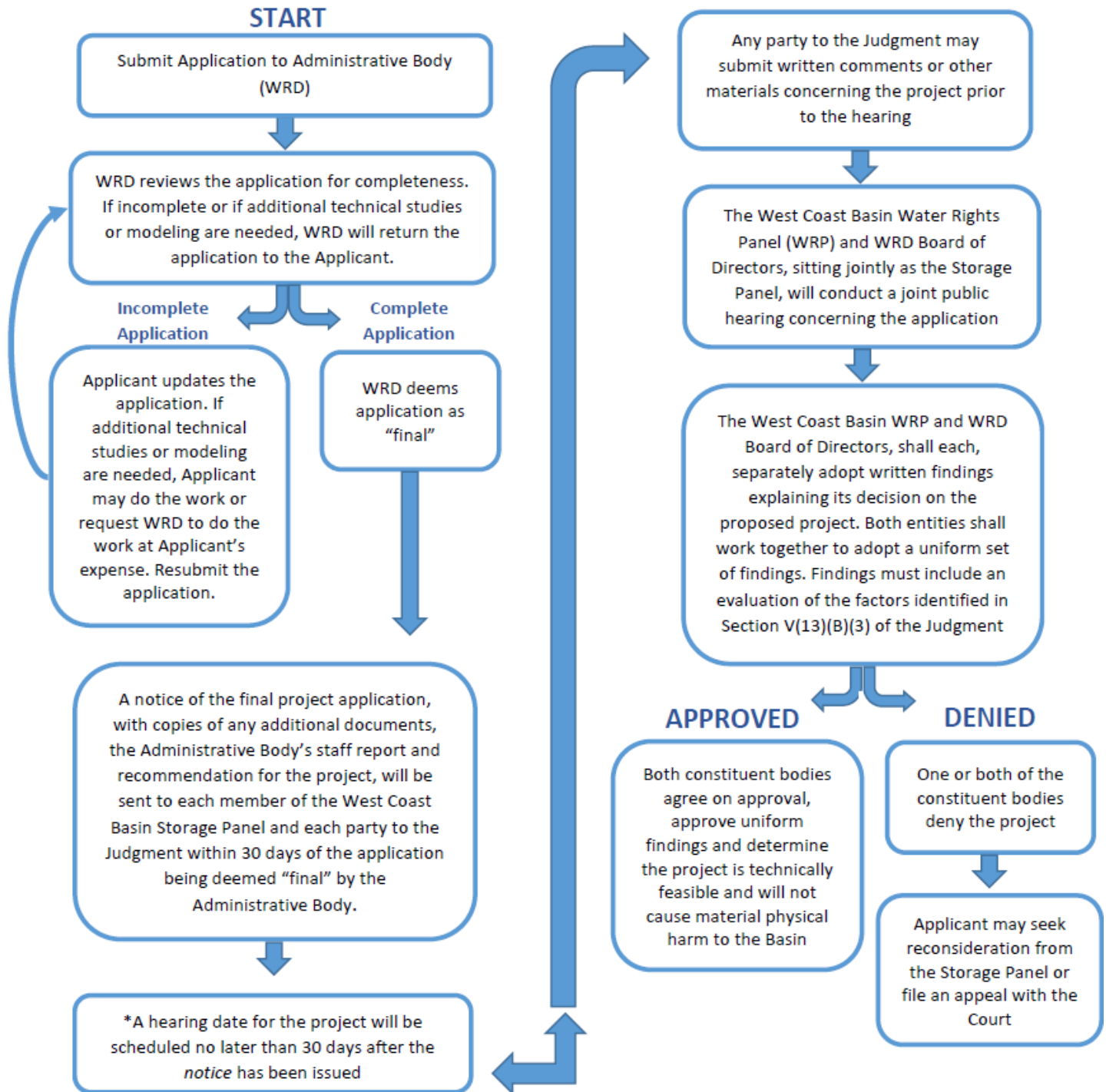
Applicants will bear all costs associated with the review and implementation of the proposed project application per Section V (12)(B)(4) of the Judgment.

Please fully complete all sections of the application. If more space is needed, answer on separate sheets of paper. If a question is not applicable, please indicate so with "N/A." Additional documents may be provided as supplemental information, but the application must be a stand-alone document containing all relevant information. If you have any questions, please contact Esther Valle Rojas at (562) 275-4259 or erojas@wrd.org.

Mail or Email Completed and Signed Application To:
Water Replenishment District of Southern California
Attn: Esther Valle Rojas, Manager of Watermaster and Water Resources
4040 Paramount Blvd
Lakewood, CA 90712
erojas@wrd.org

** For further information regarding the definition of a storage project or material physical harm, please refer to the Frequently Asked Questions.*

GROUNDWATER STORAGE PROJECT APPLICATION PROCESS



**If the Storage Panel determines that a hearing is not required on the project based on factors listed in Section V(13)(B)(3) of the Judgment, then the Storage Panel will convene a meeting, but not hold a hearing, to make the necessary findings as to why a hearing is not required.*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS) FOR GROUNDWATER STORAGE PROJECTS

1. **What is a Storage Project?** *A technically feasible activity by a party to the West Coast Basin Judgment (Judgment) pertaining to placement, recharge, injection, storage, transfer, or recapture of Stored Water within the Basin.*
2. **What is a Regional Storage Project?** *A Regional Storage Project(s) is a special type of storage used by entities that do not hold an adjudicated right, however, any Party to the Judgment may also propose a Regional Storage Project.*
3. **Who is eligible?** *An applicant that is a party to the Judgment or an applicant that is a partner with a party to the Judgment.*
4. **What is stored water?** *Water, including recycled water, held within available dewatered space as a result of spreading, injection, in-lieu delivery, or carryover conversion, where there is an intention to subsequently withdraw the water for reasonable and beneficial use pursuant to the Amended Judgment. No storage of water shall occur in the Basin except in conformity with the Judgment.*
5. **What is the limit on stored water?** *Parties with an adjudicated right may not cumulatively have in storage, at any time, stored water totaling more than two-hundred fifty percent (250%) of that party's adjudicated right.*
6. **Is the extraction of water from a storage project exempted from the replenishment assessment?** *Yes, water introduced into the Basin for storage through an approved storage project is not subject to the replenishment assessment.*
7. **Who is allowed to extract water?** *Only a party to the Judgment can extract stored water.*
8. **What is material physical harm?** *Material physical injury or material diminution in the quality or quantity of groundwater available within the Basin to support extraction of the total water rights or stored water, that is demonstrated to be attributable to the placement, recharge, injection, storage or recapture of stored water in the West Coast Basin, including, but not limited to, degradation of water quality, liquefaction, land subsidence and other material physical injury caused by elevated or lowered groundwater levels.*